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Petition to eliminate rule Part 95 Subpart E # 95.1749

Many groups of qualified emergency responders across the country have utilized the connection of GMRS repeaters via the internet at great personal expense to their members. Last year **without input from the public**, an existing rule rule # 95.1749 was reworded that suddenly eliminated this important option for gmrs users. Many members are CERT and FEMA trained in search and rescue, EMS trained, PD, FD and more.

I have worked with many trained emergency responders who have utilized this communication method especially in remote areas where other radio communications is limited or non existent. Using connected GMRS repeaters also allows members to communicate in areas where no cell phone coverage exists. It can save lives.

There have been many instances across the country where inexpensive portable GMRS radios were handed out to citizens in storm ravaged areas to stay in communication with emergency responders. Recently hurricane ravaged North Carolina was an example where GMRS communications was crucial for the residents.

GMRS is not the complicated ham radio hobby which requires technical radio skills and passing exams in order to operate on their channels. GMRS is a Citizens radio service where there are no tests or expensive and complex radios needed. GMRS is a low cost option for communities that doesn't exist in other radio services for citizens.

Considerations:

1. **24/7 Emergency Preparedness** – A connected GMRS network can be crucial in emergencies, enabling communities to share important information when cellular networks are down. Helping manage large-scale incidents, such as natural disasters
2. **Improved Reliability** – Having linked repeaters provides redundancy, ensuring communication remains available even if one repeater goes down.

3. Access to Remote Areas – A linked network allows users in rural or mountainous regions to stay connected where traditional communication services may be unreliable.

4. Interoperability – Multiple groups, families, or emergency responders can stay in touch over a larger area without switching frequencies or relying on different communication methods.

Thank you for considering the elimination of this ruling. 95.1749

The General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) rule 47 CFR § 95.1749 prohibits interconnecting GMRS stations with the telephone network or any other network for the purpose of carrying GMRS communications. However, GMRS repeaters, base, and fixed stations can be connected to the public switched network or other networks for the sole purpose of remote control operation.

Sincerely, G. Dove
Bellmore, NY